

DEC 10 2004

PATENT

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**CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION**

I hereby certify that this correspondence (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being faxed to 703-872-9306 on the date shown below to Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.

Date: 12-10-04  
Christina M. Padamonsky**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re patent application of:

Applicant(s): Eric J. Horvitz, *et al.*

Examiner: Michael B. Holmes

Serial No: 09/832,274

Art Unit: 2121

Filing Date: April 10, 2001

Title: SYSTEM AND METHOD PROVIDING UTILITY-BASED DECISION MAKING  
ABOUT CLARIFICATION DIALOG GIVEN COMMUNICATIVE UNCERTAINTY

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

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**REPLY TO OFFICE ACTION DATED AUGUST 10, 2004**

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Dear Sir:

Favorable reconsideration of the above-identified patent application is respectfully requested in view of the amendments and comments below. A credit card payment form is filed concurrently herewith in connection with all fees due regarding the one month extension. In the event any additional fees may be due and/or are not covered by the credit card, the Commissioner is authorized to charge such fees to Deposit Account No. 50-1063 [MSFTP165USA].